Head of Geography: Mrs Spellerof

‘The world is your oyster.

Explore it and learn how today’s world was shaped and understand the challenges we face in the future.’

(aqa.org.uk)

Geography Matters!

Geography impacts everyday life and so by studying the subject at GCSE

gives pupils the opportunity to investigate the link and examine the

conflicts between:

Human geography – the world’s people and man-made world;

Physical geography – the world’s natural places and environments.

Case studies and examples in the UK, HICs, NEEs and LICs are used to

examine the key opportunities and challenges that they face e.g. climate change, poverty, deprivation,

global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use.

Pupils will also be encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints,

values and attitudes.

They will develop academic and life skills from writing, teamwork and communication to analytical skills.

Pupils will learn about:

Living with the physical environment looking at the challenge of natural hazards including tectonics and

weather hazards; the living world including tropical rainforests and hot deserts, and UK physical landscapes

including coasts and rivers.

Challenges in the human environment looking at urban issues and challenges; the changing economic

world and the challenge of resource management, with a focus on food management.

Fieldwork is a really important part of Geography. Two geographical enquiries in contrasting environments

will be carried out - currently West Wittering/East Head spit and Gunwharf Quays.

With teacher guidance, pupils will research and analyse the issue, consider and select a possible option and

justify their decision.

Pupils will also undertake an issue evaluation about a current and controversial geographical issue, the

details of which are issued 12 weeks prior to the exam.

How the course is assessed:

At the end of Year 11 there are three papers:

Papers 1 (Physical) and 2 (Human) are 1 hour 30 minutes long and together, they

contribute to 70% of the final mark.

Paper 3 (Geographical applications covering Fieldwork enquiries, skills and the

issue evaluation) is 1 hour 15 minutes and contributes to the final 30% of the

GCSE grade.

How can Geography help pupils in the future?

The knowledge gained at GCSE, paired with essential curiosity, will give pupils

the sought-after transferable skills for success in further education like at ‘A’ level and also the workplace.

Geography links well with other subjects and is often seen as a bridge between science and humanities. It

combines well with Geology and other Earth science as well as social sciences like Sociology, Psychology and

Economics. Geography can lead to a wide range of careers and university courses. It is an extremely

versatile subject.

Please see Mrs Speller if you would like more information, who will be attending Options Evening.